

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**In re U.S. Patent Application of**

**KOBAYASHI et al.**

**Application Number: -To be Assigned**

**Filed: Concurrently Herewith**

**For: LIQUID CRYSTAL DISPLAY**

**Honorable Assistant Commissioner  
for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231**

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Applicant has amended the claim in order to eliminate the multiple dependency of claim and thereby reduce the filing fee in accordance with standard U.S. practice. Prior to an examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please substitute the claims with the following amended claims:

3. (Amended) A liquid crystal display device according to Claim 1, wherein the pixel electrode and the counter electrode are formed as different layers with an insulating film interposed therebetween, either one of the pixel electrode and the counter electrode being formed of a transparent conductive layer.
12. (Amended) A liquid crystal display device according to Claim 1, wherein ionic image retention is not observed after pixels have been turned on for two minutes.
14. (Amended) A liquid crystal display device according to Claim 1, wherein each of the alignment films has a film thickness of 40 nm to 300 nm.
15. (Amended) A liquid crystal display device according to Claim 1, wherein the insulating film has a film thickness of 100 nm to 4  $\mu$ m.
16. (Amended) A liquid crystal display device according to Claim 1, wherein the liquid